

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11

OMB-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 /120 R

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P 172333Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO DOD

CINCPAC PRIORITY

COMUSJAPAN

CGUSFJ

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 011205

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, JA, MARR

SUBJECT: FUEL PROCUREMENT IN JAPAN FOR US FORCES

REF: A) TOKYO 0285/091100ZJAN74

B) CINCPAC 120257ZJAN74 (NOTAL)

1. DOD HAS COMPLETED ARRANGEMENTS TO HALT ALL PETROLEUM DELIVERIES FROM JAPANESE SOURCES INTO PRINCIPAL US TERMINALS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 20. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM GOJ, HOWEVER, THAT COMPLETE CESSATION OF ALL US PROCUREMENT IN JAPAN PRESENTS A NUMBER OF COMPLEX PROBLEMS OF SUPPLY TO CERTAIN BASES DEPENDENT ON JAPANESE FUEL SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. FOR EXAMPLE: CHITOSE RECEIVES
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FUEL UNDER US CONTRACT FOR CENTRAL HEATING PLANT WHICH

SERVES 6000 SDF AND 60 US PERSONNEL. AT ATSUGI JOINT

FACILITIES ARE USED TO FUEL US AND SDF AIRCRAFT AND GROUND EQUIPMENT. IN ADDITION, LIMITED QUANTITIES OF KEROSENE AND FUEL OIL FOR CERTAIN LOCAL ACTIVITIES ARE NOT RPT NOT AVAILABLE FROM US MILITARY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

2. TO INSURE CONTINUED SUPPLY FOR LOCAL ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN, DOD HAS PROPOSED THAT USFJ CONTINUE USE OF JAPANESE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND SMALL QUANTITY OF JAPANESE COMMERCIAL FUEL WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT EQUIVALENT QUANTITIES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS WILL BE FURNISHED TO

JAPAN FROM US TERMINAL STOCKS REPLENISHED FROM NON-JAPANESE SOURCES. CURRENT SALES TO SDF UNDER EXISTING ARRANGEMENT COULD BE CREDITED AS OFFSET TO US LOCAL PROCUREMENT. ANY REMAINING IMBALANCE INCURRED AFTER JANUARY 20 COULD BE ELIMINATED BY SALE OF US PRODUCT TO JAPAN UNDER MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOJ AND COMUSJ.

3. GOJ ACCEPTANCE OF ABOVE SCENARIO WOULD PERMIT IMMEDIATE ANNOUNCEMENT BY GOJ THAT US ALTERNATIVE PROCUREMENT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, WITH ONLY MINOR DETAILS REMAINING TO BE WORKED OUT. IT WOULD ALSO ASSURE UNINTERRUPTED SUPPLY TO BOTH US AND SDF ACTIVITIES AT JOINT FACILITIES.

4. WE RECOGNIZE THAT CONTINUED USE OF JAPANESE COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LENDS ITSELF TO DELIBERATE MEDIA DISTORTION (PARA 4, REF A) AND IS SITUATION WE MUST BE PREPARED TO LIVE WITH. HOWEVER, GOJ SHOULD BE URGED TO CLARIFY ROLE OF JAPANESE CONTRACTORS, EITHER IN ITS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OR AT APPROPRIATE POINT IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING IN DIET.

5. IF EMBASSY PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION TO PROCEDURES PARA 2 ABOVE REQUEST GOJ BE NOTIFIED ASAP.

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